

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 CAB-02
DOTE-00 INR-10 FAA-00 L-03 MCE-00 /062 W
-----084656 232151Z /12

R 221355Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2218

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4898

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SF

SUBJECT: EXPORT CONTROL: AIRCRAFT SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA

RF: (A) LUSAKA 2912, (B) PRETORIA 3279

SUMMARY: WE RECOMMEND CHANGE IN CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES
FOR US-ORIGIN AIRCRAFT SOLD BY SOUTH AFRICAN DISTRIBUTORS
IN THIRD COUNTRIES AND ON SPARE PARTS. END SUMMARY

1. FOR LUSAKA: REVISED USG REGULATIONS NOW REQUIRE THAT
PURCHASERS OF US MANUFACTURED AIRCRAFT IN SOUTH AFRICA
CERTIFY THAT AIRCRAFT IS NOT FOR MILITARY, PARAMILITARY, OR
POLICE USE "IN SOUTH AFRICAN OR SOUTHWEST AFRICA." PURCHASERS
MUST ALSO CERTIFY THAT SAME CERTIFICATION WILL BE OBTAINED
FROM RE-PURCHASERS OF AIRCRAFT AND NAMES OF SUCH RE-
PURCHASERS BE REPORTED TO DEALER. CERTIFICATION DOES NOT NEED
TO BE
SIGNED BEFORE EMBASSY OFFICER. THESE REQUIREMENTS ALSO APPLY
TO PURCHASERS IN THIRD COUNTRIES BUYING FROM STOCK OF
SOUTH AFRICAN DEALERS.

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2. FOR DEPARTMENT: IN STATE 123302, DEPARTMENT OFFERED
TO REVIEW NEED FOR CERTIFICATIONS FOR PURCHASERS IN THIRD
COUNTRIES IF CERTIFICATION PROCEDURES PROVE AN IMPEDIMENT
TO SALES TO NEIGHBORING BLACK-RULED COUNTRIES. AIR-
CRAFT DISTRIBUTORS HAVE AGAIN APPROACHED EMBASSY TO EX-
PRESS VIEW THAT IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT AND OFTEN IN-
FEASIBLE TO OBTAIN CERTIFICATIONS FROM PURCHASERS, PAR-

TICULARLY GOVERNMENT ENTITIES, IN THIRD COUNTRIES. THEY BELIEVE THAT CERTIFICATION POSE MAJOR IMPEDIMENT TO SALES. THEY ALSO STRESS GREATER PROBLEMS OF ENFORCEING RE-PURCHASE CERTIFICATIONS IN THESE COUNTRIES.

3. IN VIEW OF EXISTING REQUIREMENT THAT ALL AIRCRAFT RE-EXPORTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO THIRD COUNTRIES OR BACK TO SOUTH AFRICA (OR RHODESIA) REQUIRE USG PERMISSION (STATE 123302), EMBASSY QUESTIONS WHETHER CONTROL IS STRENGTHENED BY ADDING CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT IN THIRD COUNTRIES. END

-USE CHECK COULD BE RUN AT TIME OF RE-EXPORT APPLICATION FROM THIRD COUNTRY. WE WOULD THEREFORE PROPOSE THAT FOR SALES OF US ORIGIN AIRCRAFT FROM SOUTH AFRICAN DEALERS' STOCKS TO THIRD COUNTRIES, END-USE CHECK TO ASSURE BONA NIDES OF PURCHASER BE REQUESTED BY PRETORIA FROM EMBASSY INVOLVED BUT WITH ONLY CERTIFICATION BEING REQUIREMENT FOR USG PERMISSION TO RE-EXPORT AIRCRAFT. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S VIEW ON THIS PROPOSAL.

4. ADDITIONAL POINT RAISED BY DEALERS IS STATEMENT IN CERTIFICATION ON SPARE PARTS THAT PARTS ARE "INTENDED FOR THE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF AIRCRAFT THAT ARE REGISTERED IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, ETC." THE POINT OUT THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS A REGIONAL AIRCRAFT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CENTER AND SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANIES PERFORM MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR ON AIRCRAFT REGISTERED IN A LARGE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE US, BRITAIN, BOTSWANA, MALAWI, MOZAMBIQUE, ZAMBIA, AND SWAZILAND. THEY NOTE THAT TWO SOUTH AFRICAN FIRMS ARE FAA APPROVED REPAIR STATIONS FOR US REGISTERED AIRCRAFT. DEALERS STATE THAT IN VIEW OF THIS SITUATION, IT IS NOT FEASIBLE TO COMPLY WITH THIS PART OF CERTIFICATION.

5. EMBASSY BELIEVES DEALERS HAVE A VALID POINT HERE. AS PHRASE IN CERTIFICATION IS APPARENTLY AIMED AT RHODESIAN REGISTERED PLANES, EMBASSY WOULD RECOMMEND CHANGING PHRASE TO SIMPLE PROHIBITION ON USING U.S.-ORIGIN PARTS IN RHODESIAN REGISTERED AIRCRAFT. REQUEST DEPARTMENT VIEWS ON THIS PROPOSAL. EDMONDSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPORT CONTROLS, AIRCRAFT SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PRETOR04898
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780345-0713
Format: TEL
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780837/aaaabeut.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7371635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1660423
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPORT CONTROL: AIRCRAFT SALES TO SOUTH AFRICA RF: (A) LUSAKA 2912, (B) PRETORIA 3279 SUMMARY: WE RECOMMEND CHANGE IN CERTIFICATION PRO
TAGS: EAIR, SF, US
To: STATE LUSAKA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7371635f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014